

Case of the Pre-tumour Stage of Mycosis Fungoides.

By E. G. GRAHAM LITTLE, M.D.

THE patient, a man aged 50, shows a large number of circumscribed roughly circinate patches of dermatitis, some 2 to 4 in. in diameter, distributed chiefly on the legs, arms and back of the body, showing a moderate but definite degree of infiltration and much itching. There are at present no tumours and no greatly enlarged glands; the earliest patches began about three years ago, and the condition has steadily progressed. Section shows an early cellular infiltration of the pars papillaris of the corium. None of the patches have disappeared, but new patches are continually forming.

DISCUSSION.

Dr. GRAY said he felt inclined to dispute the diagnosis. The lesions were very numerous, superficial and symmetrical, he could not find any infiltration, and there was but little itching. He suggested it was typical parapsoriasis en plaque.

Dr. WHITFIELD agreed with Dr. Gray's view. First, in a case of mycosis fungoides there was always a slight fullness or rising of the skin at the edge; secondly, the converse was true of parapsoriasis; that when the skin was thrown into folds there was evident a slight depression or atrophy of the skin. In this case the plaque was below the general level of the skin.

Case of Sarcoid.

By AGNES SAVILL, M.D.

THE patient is a woman aged 50. She has two large nodules on each upper arm, practically symmetrical, and two patches on the cheeks; they have been developing for eighteen months. When I first saw her six weeks ago the upper arms were much larger than now, and were purple, whereas now they are reddish. She has been having doses of pituitary and thyroid, beginning with $\frac{1}{2}$ gr. thyroid, and increasing to 2 gr., and of pituitary 2 gr. twice a day. The nodules themselves are unaffected, but the swelling between them has gone. The face nodules are very much less infiltrated than formerly.

DISCUSSION.

Dr. ADAMSON (President) said he had observed two cases very like Dr. Savill's case. One of these cases he had shown as an example of subcutaneous "sarcoid" of Darier and Roussy.¹ In the other case the subcutaneous nodules (on the arms) were associated with a typical lupus erythematosus on the face. Dr. Darier, had, however, seen Dr. Savill's case and had said that it was not a sarcoid, but that it resembled some cases recently described by Schaumann² (of Stockholm) under the name of "benign lympho-granuloma." But this was really a new name which Schaumann had suggested for lupus pernio, and he (the President) could not agree that Dr. Savill's case or his own cases (which he thought resembled it) were examples of lupus pernio; and since Dr. Darier did not identify it with the Darier-Roussy sarcoid, he felt that the diagnosis of these cases must still remain open.

¹ *Brit. Journ. Derm.*, 1912, xxiv, p. 394, and 1910, xxii, p. 89.

² For abstract of Schaumann's paper see *Brit. Journ. Derm.*, 1917, xxix, p. 225.

Dr. F. PARKES WEBER said the boy he brought to a former meeting¹ with red patches on the cheeks, &c.—in some respects resembling a case of lupus pernio—had died in an infirmary. He now thought that the case was an exaggerated example of the condition which had been described by Australian doctors² as “erythroedema” (this was suggested by Dr. J. H. Sequeira at the meeting in question), and recently by Weston,³ Byfield⁴ and others in America as resembling acrodynia and pellagra.

A Stained Section from a Case of Kerato-epithelioma Scroti.

By GEORGE PERNET, M.D.

PATIENT, a man aged about 45. Duration, fifteen months. Clinically: An irregular figure-of-eight shaped, raised horny growth (about $\frac{3}{4}$ by $\frac{1}{2}$ in.) on the right side of the scrotum. It felt like a thick coin through a cloth. The lesion had been fomented and ointments applied, but the growth had become somewhat larger. No enlargement of inguinal glands. Diagnosis: Epithelioma. It was excised. Microscopically it showed cancer cells of the pavement kind arranged in masses penetrating the derm. Numerous horny cell nests were present. On looking up the literature of tumours of the scrotum no case of the kind was found.

Des Épithéliomes Primitifs de la Peau.⁵

Par J. DARIER (Paris).

(ABSTRACT.)

DANS la question des cancers de la peau l'intérêt de l'heure actuelle se porte principalement sur leur étiologie, sur les conditions de leur malignité relative, et sur la radiosensibilité des diverses espèces. Les acquisitions récentes relatives à la production expérimentale de ces cancers ont renoué le sujet et l'ont particulièrement mis à l'ordre du jour.

Nous avons actuellement trois moyens pour créer du cancer: les rayons X, avec lesquels on réussit rarement, la méthode n'étant pas réglée; un parasite animal, le *Spiroptera neoplastica* qui a donné des succès dans près de la moitié des cas chez les rats pies à Fibiger de Copenhagen; les badigeonnages de goudron, inaugurés par les Japonais, et repris par Fibiger, qu'on expérimente actuellement dans tous les pays, et par lesquels on obtient des cancers de la peau vraiment malins avec une réelle constance sur les souris.

Il ressort de ces expériences que les causes du cancer sont multiples; qu'une même espèce de cancer peut être produite par des causes diverses et qu'un même agent peut produire des tumeurs différentes. Elles ont aussi mis

¹ April 21, 1921. Cf. illustrated account by F. Parkes Weber, *Brit. Journ. Derm.*, 1921, xxxiii, p. 228.

² Cf. A. J. Wood, *Med. Journ. Australia*, 1921, i, p. 145.

³ W. Weston, *Arch. Ped.*, New York, 1920, xxxvii, p. 513.

⁴ A. H. Byfield, *Amer. Journ. Child. Dis.*, 1920, xx, p. 347.

⁵ This paper was illustrated by numerous photographs of cases and microscopical preparations. A fuller description with the appropriate illustrations will be found in the first fasciculus of the *Atlas du Cancer* to be published shortly by the Association française pour l'étude du Cancer, and in an article by MM. Darier and Ferrand which will appear in the *Annales de Dermatologie et de Syphiligraphie*.